United Nations S/2011/525

Security Council

Distr.: General
30 August 2011

Original: English

Letter dated 29 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a report of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Germany in July 2011 (see annex).

The report was prepared under my responsibility, after consultation with the other members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Peter **Wittig**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 29 August 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Germany (July 2011)

Introduction

During the month of July 2011, under the presidency of Ambassador Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, the Council adopted 9 resolutions and 2 presidential statements and issued 10 press statements. Two open thematic debates on children and armed conflict and on the maintenance of international peace and security (impact of climate change) were held. The Council mandated a new mission in the Republic of South Sudan, the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS), and recommended to the General Assembly that the Republic of South Sudan be admitted to membership in the United Nations.

Africa

Central African Republic

On 7 July 2011, the Council was briefed by the Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA), Margaret Vogt, and the Chair of the Peacebuilding Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission and Permanent Representative of Belgium, Ambassador Jan Grauls, on the recent developments in the country. The Special Representative emphasized that the country still faced serious challenges, including extreme poverty, human rights violations and impunity. She underlined that the situation in the Central African Republic could have repercussions throughout the whole region. Highlighting positive developments, Ms. Vogt welcomed the role of BINUCA. Several governance institutions had been created and key legislation had been introduced since its establishment in January 2010. The recently held presidential and legislative elections had been characterized as mainly peaceful and inclusive.

Ambassador Grauls underlined the importance of the security sector reform process and called on the international community to assist BINUCA in supporting this process. In a statement to the press, the Council welcomed the recently held presidential and legislative elections, but expressed concern about the security situation in the north and east of the country.

Sudan

With independence less than a day away, on 8 July 2011, the Council adopted resolution 1996 (2011) establishing, for an initial period of one year, the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS), which would consist of up to 7,000 military personnel, 900 police and appropriate civilian support. The Council further decided to review in three and six months, whether on-the-ground conditions could allow a reduction in the number of military peacekeepers to 6,000.

Following the decision of the Sudan to terminate the presence of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) as of 11 July 2011, the Council, by its resolution 1997 (2011) of 11 July 2011, withdrew UNMIS and called on the Secretary-General to complete the withdrawal of all UNMIS uniformed and civilian personnel, except those needed for its liquidation, by 31 August 2011. Several Council members expressed deep regret that UNMIS had to be withdrawn at the very moment when its proven abilities to ease tensions were particularly needed, especially with regard to the fighting in South Kordofan and the situation in Blue Nile. Some other Council members stated the necessity of taking into account the opinion of the host country.

On 13 July 2011, the Council held a high-level debate chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Guido Westerwelle, and recommended to the General Assembly, in its resolution 1999 (2011), that the Republic of South Sudan be admitted to the membership of the United Nations. The Vice-President of the Republic of South Sudan participated in the debate. In a presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/14), the Council noted with great satisfaction the solemn commitment of the Republic of South Sudan to uphold the purposes and principles of the Charter and to fulfil all the obligations therein. After being briefed about the situation in the country by the Secretary-General, Council members pledged continued support to the Republic of South Sudan.

With regard to the ongoing violence in South Kordofan, on 15 July 2011 the Council was briefed by the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator on the humanitarian situation in the region.

On 18 July 2011, the Council held a meeting in private with the troop- and police-contributing countries to the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The Council and the troop- and police-contributing countries heard briefings by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Edmond Mulet, Deputy Military Adviser Abhijit Guha, and Acting Police Adviser Andrew Carpenter.

With a view to the UNAMID mandate expiring at the end of the month, the Council was briefed by the Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur, Ibrahim Gambari, on 22 July 2011.

On 27 July 2011, 30 days after adopting resolution 1990 (2011) establishing the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the situation in Abyei. He informed the Council about the ongoing deployment of Ethiopian troops.

Regarding the situation in South Kordofan, the Council was briefed on 28 July 2011 by Assistant Secretary-General Simonovic in consultations of the whole on the human rights situation.

On 29 July 2011, the Council adopted resolution 2003 (2011) extending the mandate of UNAMID for a period of 12 months.

Peace consolidation in West Africa

On 8 July 2011, the Council was briefed by the Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa, Said Djinnit, on the report of the Secretary-General on the

activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA) dated 20 June 2011 (S/2011/388). He welcomed the peaceful end of the post-election crisis in Côte d'Ivoire and the successful presidential elections and political transition in the Niger. In Guinea, the legislative elections scheduled to be held by the end of 2011 were on track. Mr. Djinnit called on the Council to continue its support for the West African countries. The Niger, in particular, would need support in dealing with security and development challenges, such as ending food insecurity, to become a politically and economically successful country over time. Special attention had to be drawn to the large number of elections scheduled until 2013 in the region, which, although a welcome development, held the potential to raise tensions leading to renewed violence and instability. During the subsequent consultations of the whole, members of the Council agreed on a statement to the press.

Côte d'Ivoire

In a closed meeting on 11 July 2011, the Council met with troop- and police-contributing countries to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and heard a briefing by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. He stressed that the situation in the west region remained extremely precarious. Attacks against civilians continued.

On 18 July 2011, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of UNOCI, Choi Young-jin, based on the most recent report of the Secretary-General dated 24 June 2011 (S/2011/387). He welcomed the efforts by the Ivorian people to achieve national reconciliation in the country and was confident that President Ouattara and his team would meet the challenges following the crisis. The Government would work hard on the rapid restoration of law and order, which was of highest importance. Regarding economic recovery, Mr. Choi said most experts shared optimistic views that it was moving in the right direction. In the consultations of the whole that followed, Council members welcomed the report and underlined the need for stability and national reconciliation, particularly with a view to the upcoming legislative elections later in 2011.

The Council, on 27 July 2011, extended the mandate of UNOCI until 31 July 2012 by unanimously adopting resolution 2000 (2011). The Council decided to maintain the strength of the operation and requested the Secretary-General to provide a midterm report no later than 31 December 2011, a final report no later than 30 June 2012, and recommendations on possible adjustments in the structure and strength of UNOCI, contained in either the midterm report or in a special report to be issued no later than 31 March 2012.

Libya

In consultations of the whole on 11 July 2011, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Libya, Abdel-Elah Mohamed Al-Khatib. He underlined the need to coordinate the ongoing initiatives and proposed the establishment of a transitional mechanism in Libya.

The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Lynn Pascoe, briefed the Council on 28 July 2011 about recent developments in Libya. He outlined efforts by the Secretary-General and his envoy to press ahead with the parallel approach proposed to Government officials in Tripoli and National Transitional Council representatives in Benghazi. Mr. Pascoe stressed that a ceasefire tied to transitional

arrangements, and which addressed the aspirations of the Libyan people, was the only sustainable political solution to the crisis. From the outset, the United Nations had worked closely with all concerned parties inside Libya, with regional organizations, including the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as the wider international community. Turning to the humanitarian situation, Mr. Pascoe said that more than 630,000 people, including some 100,000 Libyans, were now believed to have fled the country since the start of the conflict. He emphasized that the approach of the holy month of Ramadan had added greater urgency to the provision of supplies and meeting humanitarian needs.

The situation in the Great Lakes region

Almost two years after the last briefing on the situation in the Great Lakes region (Lord's Resistance Army-affected areas), the Council held a private meeting on 21 July 2011 to discuss the continuing threat by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) to regional security. The Council heard briefings by the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Tayé-Brook Zerihoun, and the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Ambassador Téte Antonio. Representatives of Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic and South Sudan participated in the meeting.

The Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs reported increased attacks by LRA in 2011 and stressed the serious impact on civilians and the humanitarian situation. He underlined the readiness of the United Nations to support the African Union regional strategy on LRA. The United Nations Office for Central Africa was tasked to take the lead in facilitating this coordination. The Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations solicited political and financial support for the African Union regional strategy.

Council members condemned the attacks carried out by LRA and emphasized the need for effective protection of civilians, while underlining the primary responsibility of the States in the region in this regard. They welcomed the leadership shown by the African Union in its recent initiative to develop a regional strategy on LRA. The Permanent Representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic expressed their readiness to support the fight against LRA and to cooperate. Council members agreed on a press statement requesting the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed on developments, including through a report to be submitted in October 2011.

Somalia

On 25 July 2011, in consultations of the whole, the Council was briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Catherine Bragg, on the humanitarian situation, with famine in two provinces of southern Somalia. Council members expressed their deep concern about the dramatic situation in the region and agreed on a press statement urging all relevant parties to ensure immediate and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian aid.

The Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri, briefed the Council on 21 July 2011 on his 120-day report.

On 29 July 2011, the Council adopted resolution 2002 (2011) extending the mandate of the Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea for 12 months and including, inter alia, as new listing criterion the recruitment or use of children in armed conflicts in Somalia in violation of applicable international law.

Eritrea

On 19 July 2011, the Council held an informal dialogue at the request of Eritrea on issues of concern to Eritrea. Representatives from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti, Somalia, Uganda and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development participated in this meeting. Council members called for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the region and condemned the support of armed and terrorist groups.

Asia

Afghanistan

The quarterly Council debate on 6 July focused on the beginning of the security transition. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Staffan de Mistura, said that the transition was on track. Despite an increased number of security incidents, he described a perception of improvement in the security situation. The Special Representative advocated for the transition to be more than just a security transition and that the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), based on its mandate, was prepared to facilitate the socio-economic and human rights aspects of the transition. Council members and other delegations welcomed the role of UNAMA in Afghanistan. They expressed concern about the worsening security situation and the increase in conflict-related casualties. They underlined that a complementary political process was indispensable, without putting into question the achievements for the Afghan people over the last decade or the constitutional order. The Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations, Ambassador Zahir Tanin, underlined the emerging international consensus on a transition strategy, and called for more international support to the Afghan security forces. He declared that reconciliation and reintegration were political priorities for the Government of Afghanistan. In this context, and in line with most delegations, he welcomed the recent split of the Council's Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) into separate regimes.

Iraq

On 19 July 2011, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Ad Melkert, briefed the Council on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the situation in Iraq. While progress had been made in Government formation, a determined national leadership and a stronger spirit of cooperation in the region were crucial for Iraq's future. Mr. Melkert noticed some positive developments in Iraq's economic situation, though the poverty index remained high. Explaining that the transition process took time, he underlined the need for shared political action against armed opposition groups that threatened a peaceful process. He welcomed the decision to form a joint ministerial committee in Kuwait and reminded Iraq of the need to implement its remaining Chapter VII obligations.

The mandate of UNAMI was renewed on 28 July 2011 by resolution 2001 (2011) until 31 July 2012.

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

On 15 July 2011, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, Ambassador Miroslav Jenca, briefed the Council on the work of the Centre. Members of the Council expressed appreciation for the work of the Regional Centre as a United Nations mechanism for preventive diplomacy to assist Central Asian countries in responding to regional challenges, including solutions to water and energy resources management, and the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as with regard to the situations in Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan. The members of the Council encouraged further cooperation and coordination between the Governments of the region, the Regional Centre, and relevant regional organizations in this regard. The Council also reaffirmed the need to provide appropriate support to the work of the Regional Centre. The Council agreed on a press statement supporting the work of the Centre.

Europe

Kosovo

On 28 July 2011, the Council, in consultations of the whole, exchanged views on recent tensions in northern Kosovo, based on a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. The Under-Secretary-General underlined the fragile situation and called on both parties to refrain from unilateral steps. Council members were concerned about the situation and called on both sides to de-escalate. Following the consultations, the Council President, Ambassador Peter Wittig, met with Vuk Jeremić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia.

Middle East

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 26 July 2011, the Council held an open debate on the situation in the Middle East, chaired by the Minister of State at the German Foreign Office, Werner Hoyer, during which it heard a briefing by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Robert Serry. He described the gap between the progress made in Palestinian State-building and the persistent and profound deadlock on the political track as dramatic. He stressed the need for Israeli steps to roll back measures of occupation and to cease all settlement activities and for steps to restore trust between the parties. He also stressed the need for continuous donor support to the Palestinians and urged donors, including members of the League of Arab States, to ensure that the Palestinian Authority can pay salaries and meet its other financial obligations. He urged the parties to find a way forward at this sensitive and important time and expressed the hope that the international community could help by shaping a legitimate and balanced framework. After having heard statements by the Permanent Representative of Israel and the Permanent Observer of Palestine, Council members called upon the parties to restart negotiations and to make

compromises for a two-State solution for durable peace and security. Many delegations also addressed the Council during the open debate.

Lebanon

The United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Michael Williams, and the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council on the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006) on 21 July 2011. The Special Coordinator welcomed the formation of a new Lebanese Government. Several Council members voiced the expectation that the new Lebanese Government would honour its international commitments, and some referred to the Special Tribunal on Lebanon. The Special Coordinator expressed his concern about the heavily armed militias, in particular Hizbullah. Both the Special Coordinator and the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations stated that during the incidents of 15 May 2011 none of the parties crossed the Blue Line, although unarmed demonstrators sought to breach the fence. The Special Coordinator described the actions of the demonstrators and of the Israel Defense Forces against them as violations of resolution 1701 (2006) and explained that, in his view, the Israeli reaction was not commensurate to the threat.

The Council issued a press statement on 26 July condemning the terrorist attack against the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), in which six United Nations peacekeepers from France were injured.

Thematic and other issues

Briefing by the Department of Political Affairs

On 28 July 2011, the Security Council held consultations of the whole and heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs on the situation in the Middle East and North Africa. Council members exchanged views following the briefing.

Children and armed conflict

On 12 July 2011, the Council held an open debate on children and armed conflict, chaired by the German Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Secretary-General briefed the Council on his periodic report submitted pursuant to the Council's presidential statement of 16 June 2010 (S/PRST/2010/10). The Council was also briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Radhika Coomaraswamy, and by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Anthony Lake.

The Council unanimously adopted resolution 1998 (2011), expanding the criteria under which parties to armed conflicts can be included in the annexes to the periodic report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict; namely those parties that engage in recurrent attacks on schools and/or on hospitals. The Council also expressed its intention, when establishing, modifying or reviewing the mandate of relevant sanction regimes, to consider including provisions pertaining to parties in armed conflict that engage in activities in violation of applicable international law relating to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict. In the debate, many States welcomed the adoption of the resolution and the

expansion of the listing criteria as an important step forward and commended the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

Briefing by the International Atomic Energy Agency

On 14 July 2011, the Council, in consultations of the whole, heard a briefing by the International Atomic Energy Agency on the implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Safeguards Agreement in the Syrian Arab Republic. Council members exchanged views.

Admission of new members

The Council, on 11 July 2011, referred the application of the Republic of South Sudan for admission to the United Nations to its Committee on the Admission of New Members and, based on the Committee's report, adopted resolution 1999 (2011) on 13 July 2011 without a vote, recommending to the General Assembly the admission of the Republic of South Sudan. The Council also adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/14).

Maintenance of international peace and security

The Council held an open thematic debate on the impact of climate change on 20 July 2011. The Secretary-General stated that climate change was real and accelerating in a dangerous manner. Climate change was therefore not only exacerbating existing threats to international peace and security; it was also a threat to international peace and security in its own right. The Council was briefed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Achim Steiner. He underlined that climate change would have fundamental implications for weather, settlements, infrastructure, food security and development. Speaking on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States, the President of Nauru, Marcus Stephen, underlined that the very survival of many countries was threatened by the impact of climate change. In the debate States expressed concern about the impacts of climate change. Some States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and the Group of 77 and China held the view that the consideration of climate change should be left to other United Nations organs, like the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The Council agreed on a presidential statement (S/PRST/2011/15) underlining the importance of establishing strategies of conflict prevention and recognizing the responsibility for sustainable development issues, including climate change, conferred upon the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The Council underlined General Assembly resolution 63/281 of 3 June 2009, which reaffirmed that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the key instrument for addressing climate change, recalled the provisions of the Convention, including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions, and invited the relevant organs of the United Nations, as appropriate and within their respective mandates, to intensify their

efforts in considering and addressing climate change, including its possible security implications. The Council expressed its concern that possible adverse effects of climate change may, in the long run, aggravate certain existing threats to international peace and security. The Council also expressed its concern that possible security implications of loss of territory of some States caused by sea-level rise may arise, in particular in small low-lying island States.

The Council noted that in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security under its consideration, conflict analysis and contextual information on, inter alia, possible security implications of climate change is important, when such issues are drivers of conflict, represent a challenge to the implementation of Council mandates or endanger the process of consolidation of peace. In this regard, the Council requested the Secretary-General to ensure that his reporting to the Council contains such contextual information.

Threats to peace and security by terrorist acts

The Council issued press statements on 13 and 23 July condemning the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, and in Norway.

Peacekeeping operations

The Council, on 27 July 2011 in an open meeting, held a discussion with the force commanders of key United Nations peacekeeping operations in Africa and the Middle East. The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Force Commanders of UNAMID, the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNIFIL and the United Nations Mission in Liberia briefed the Council on their strategies for dealing with challenges they faced. The protection of civilians was highlighted in many statements.

International Tribunal for Rwanda

The Council, on 6 July 2011, adopted resolution 1995 (2011), deciding, among other things, that, notwithstanding the statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, ad litem judges may be eligible for election as the President of the Tribunal. The Council reiterated the importance of the Tribunal being adequately staffed.

International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia

On 20 July 2011, in a statement to the press the Council welcomed the arrest of Goran Hadžić. The Council called on all parties to continue their cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.